



**Administrative and Residual Employees Union  
Local 4200, AFT CT, AFT, AFL-CIO**

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**Testimony Of  
Laila A. Mandour, President  
Administrative And Residual Employees Union  
Before The Committee On Finance, Revenue And Bonding  
In Opposition To House Bill 6567  
An Act Concerning Access To Tax Return Information In Personnel Proceedings.**

Good morning, Senator Fonfara, Representative Widlitz and members of the Committee. My name is Laila Mandour and I am the president of the Administrative and Residual Employees Union, also known as A&R. I appear before you today to testify against House Bill 6567 as drafted and to offer substitute language. A&R is comprised of approximately 3000 state employees including accountants, tax collectors and fiscal employees. We have several hundred members who work the Department of Revenue Services. The language of Section (e)(1) of House Bill 6567 as drafted allows a commissioner, at his or her discretion and under his or her terms and conditions, to determine if the requested information is relevant and material to a personnel proceeding. As drafted, the language puts our members at risk of being targeted where there exists a dispute or animus between a commissioner and an employee. Our proposed changes removes the discretion of a commissioner, yet it still supports the purpose of the bill, which is to allow the limited disclosure of return or return information in state personnel proceedings involving employees of the Department of Revenue Services. There was a similar bill introduced during the last

session. The all parties involved worked together and reached a compromise in the language, but the bill died before Session. Therefore, I urge you to support the amended language which I have included and which was agreed upon during the last session.

Substitute language for Section (e)(1) of House Bill 6567

(e) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-15, the parties to a personnel proceeding, including any administrative or judicial proceedings related thereto, involving an employee or former employee of the Department of Revenue Services, may disclose in connection with such proceeding return or return information of taxpayers for the purpose of demonstrating or refuting performance issues concerning such employee. Any return and return information disclosed under this subsection shall be redacted to avoid disclosing the identity of the taxpayer, and shall be used only for purposes of and to the extent necessary in such proceeding and shall not be further disclosed by any person involved in such proceeding.